

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 13519 01 OF 02 201614Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 EB-07

FAA-00 DOTE-00 /076 W

----- 001833

O R 201559Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2256

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN

CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG

USELM LIVE OAK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 13519

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, UR, WB, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: AUGUST 13 INCIDENT IN SOUTH CORRIDOR

REFS: (A) STATE 196161; (B) BONN 13335; (C) USBERLIN

1689

1. BONN GROUP MET TRIPARTITELY AUGUST 20 TO  
REVISE ORIGINAL DRAFT (REFTEL B) OF ALLIED PROTEST TO  
SOVIETS ON CORRIDOR INCIDENTS. ALL REPS REPORTED  
AGREEMENT THEIR CAPITALS TO ORIGINAL TEXT, BUT BELIEVED  
MINOR ALTERATIONS REQUIRED BY KHOTULEV AUGUST 18  
PRESENTATION IN BERLIN (REFTEL C). AGREEMENT QUICKLY  
STATED BY ALL REPS THAT KHOTULEV PRESENTATION MERELY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 13519 01 OF 02 201614Z

AN ATTEMPT TO FOG OVER ISSUE BY CASTING DOUBT ON PAN

AM PILOTS SINCE SOVIETS HAVE NO CONVINCING ARGUMENTS AND WILL NOT CONCEDE ERROR. UK REP, HOWEVER, EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR AMBASSADORIAL LETTER TO ABRASIMOV WHICH WOULD ASSERT POINTS OF PRINCIPLE IN MATTER. US AND FRENCH REPS OVERCAME BRITISH POSITION BY EMPHASIZING DESIRE NOT TO BECOME INVOLVED IN WRANGLE OVER PRINCIPLE A LA DEMOGRAPHIC YEARBOOK, AND BY EMPHASIZING THAT ALLIED OBJECTIVE IS TO BE SURE MOSCOW UNDERSTANDS SERIOUS NATURE OF INCIDENTS (AND HOW SERIOUSLY ALLIES TAKE THEM) AND ALLIED VIEW OF CLEAR SOVIET RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE CORRECTIVE ACTION. FINE ARGUMENTS OF PRINCIPLE AND OF DETAILS OF INCIDENT WERE THUS DISCARDED AS DETRACTIONS FROM MAIN OBJECTIVES. AD REF AGREEMENT CONSEQUENTLY REACHED ON TEXT PROVIDED BELOW, WHICH REPS RECOMMEND BE GIVEN IN CAPITALS AS AIDE MEMOIRE IN ORDER TO ENSURE ITS QUOTABILITY IF NEED SHOULD ARISE IN FUTURE. AS TO TIMING, REPS INDICATED THAT INITIAL HOPE OF DELIVERY THIS WEEK STILL REMAINS. REGARDING LEVEL OF DELIVERY, REPS AGREED THAT THIS WOULD BE MATTER FOR EACH CAPITAL TO DETERMINE, BUT CONSENSUS WAS REACHED THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO DCM WOULD BE DESIRABLE (UK REP SAID FCO HAD THOUGHT IN TERMS OF DEP UN SEC KILLICK FOR THE ORIGINAL DEMARCHE, WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LEVEL).

2. BEGIN TEXT. THE US (UK) (FRENCH) GOVERNMENT WISHES TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO SIX SERIOUS INCIDENTS IN THE BERLIN AIR CORRIDORS IN RECENT MONTHS IN WHICH SOVIET AIRCRAFT CAME DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO ALLIED AIRCRAFT FLYING IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROPERLY-FILED FLIGHT PLANS. THE INCIDENTS TOOK PLACE ON DECEMBER 23, 1974, AND MARCH 17, MAY 5, MAY 7, JULY 25, AND AUGUST 13, 1975. IN EACH CASE THE ALLIED MISSIONS PROTESTED TO THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES IN BERLIN ABOUT THE UNSAFE AND IMPROPER FLIGHT IN THE CORRIDORS BY THESE SOVIET AIRCRAFT.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 13519 02 OF 02 201615Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 EB-07

FAA-00 DOTE-00 /076 W  
----- 001850

O R 201559Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2257

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

CINC EUR VAHINGEN

CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN

CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG

USELM LIVE OAK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 13519

THE FREQUENCY AND SERIOUSNESS OF THESE INCIDENTS, WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN SATISFACTORILY EXPLAINED BY SOVIET AUTHORITIES, ARE A MATTER OF INCREASING CONCERN TO THE THREE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS. THIS CONCERN WAS NOT ALLAYED BY THE ORAL STATEMENT BY AN OFFICIAL OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN BERLIN ON AUGUST 18.

THE US (UK) (FRENCH) GOVERNMENT WISHES TO STRESS THAT ANY ACCIDENT RESULTING FROM SOVIET VIOLATIONS OF LONG-STANDING AGREEMENTS AND PRACTICES REGARDING FLIGHT IN THE AIR CORRIDORS WILL BE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT. THE THREE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS LOOK TO THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO INSURE THAT ITS AIRCRAFT DO NOT IN THE FUTURE JEOPARDIZE THE SAFETY OF FLIGHTS IN THE BERLIN AIR CORRIDORS. END TEXT.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 13519 02 OF 02 201615Z

BILITY OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT. THE THREE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS LOOK TO THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO INSURE THAT ITS AIRCRAFT DO NOT IN THE FUTURE JEOPARDIZE THE SAFETY OF FLIGHTS IN THE BERLIN AIR CORRIDORS. END TEXT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT APPROVE TEXT AND MODALITIES AS SET OUT ABOVE.

4. REGARDING USBER REPORT (USBER 1693) OF PRESS LEAK

ON AUGUST 13 INCIDENT, WE WILL FOLLOW "NO COMMENT"  
LINE AS SUGGESTED. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NO PRESS  
QUERIES ON AUGUST 13 INCIDENT OR ON JULY 25 INCIDENT,  
NEWS OF WHICH ALSO APPEARED IN PRESS.  
CASH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR SAFETY, BERLIN TRIPARTITE MATTERS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, BERLIN AIR CORRIDORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BONN13519  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750288-0141  
**From:** BONN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750833/aaaabccg.tel  
**Line Count:** 174  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 196161, 75 BONN 13335  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 APR 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AUGUST 13 INCIDENT IN SOUTH CORRIDOR  
**TAGS:** PBOR, PFOR, UR, WB, US, UK, FR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006